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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.
09/218,481	12/22/98	VAN BRUGGEN	N 11669.41US01

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EXAMINER	
UNGAR, S	
ART UNIT	**PAPER NUMBER**
1642	6

DATE MAILED: 12/07/99

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Office Action Summary	Application No. 09/218,481	Applicant(s) Bruggen et al
	Examiner Ungar	Group Art Unit 1642

☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *Jul 14, 1999* .

☐ This action is **FINAL.**

☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, **prosecution as to the merits is closed** in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11; 453 O.G. 213.

A shortened statutory period for response to this action is set to expire *one* month(s), or thirty days, whichever is longer, from the mailing date of this communication. Failure to respond within the period for response will cause the application to become abandoned. (35 U.S.C. § 133). Extensions of time may be obtained under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a).

Disposition of Claims

☒ Claim(s) *1-29* is/are pending in the application.

Of the above, claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are rejected.

☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

☒ Claims *1-29* are subject to restriction or election requirement.

Application Papers

☐ See the attached Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948.

☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are objected to by the Examiner.

☐ The proposed drawing correction, filed on _____ is ☐approved ☐disapproved.

☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d).

☐ All ☐ Some* ☐ None of the CERTIFIED copies of the priority documents have been

☐ received.

☐ received in Application No. (Series Code/Serial Number) _____ .

☐ received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

*Certified copies not received: _____ .

☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e).

Attachment(s)

☐ Notice of References Cited, PTO-892

☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s), PTO-1449, Paper No(s). _____

☐ Interview Summary, PTO-413

☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948

☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application, PTO-152

--- SEE OFFICE ACTION ON THE FOLLOWING PAGES ---

1. Claims **1-29 are pending** in the application and are currently under prosecution.

This application contains sequence disclosures that are encompassed by the definitions for nucleotide and/or amino acid sequences set forth in 37 CFR 1.8821 (a)(1) and (a)(2). However, this application fails to comply with the requirements of 37 CFR 1.821 through 1.825 for the reasons(s) set forth on the attached Notice to Comply with Requirements for Patent Applications Containing Nucleotide Sequence And/Or Amino Acid Sequence Disclosures.

Applicant is given ONE MONTH from the date of this letter within which to comply with the sequence rules, 37 CFR 1.821-1.825. Failure to comply with these requirements will result in ABANDONMENT of the application under 37 CFR 1.821 (g). Extensions of time may be obtained by filing a petition accompanied by the extension fee under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no case may an applicant extend the period for response beyond the SIX MONTH statutory period. Direct the response to the undersigned. Applicant is requested to return a copy of the attached Notice to Comply with the response.

2. Restriction to one of the following inventions is required under 35 U.S.C. § 121:

Group I. Claims 1, 2, 7-10, 22-26 are drawn to a method of treating edema with an antibody classified in Class 424, subclass 130.1.

Group II. Claims 1-5 and 7-10 are drawn to a method of treating edema associated with neoplastic disease with an antibody classified in Class 424, subclass 130.1.

Group III. Claims 1, 2, 6-10 are drawn to a method of treating a edema associated with stroke with an antibody classified in Class 424, subclass 130.1.

Group IV. Claims 1, 11-13, 27-29 are drawn to a method of treating edema with a hVEGF receptor fusion protein classified in Class 514, subclass 2.

Group V. Claims 14-18 are drawn to a method of treating stroke with an antibody classified in Class 424, subclass 130.1.

Group VI. Claims 14 and 19-21 are drawn to a method of treating stroke with an hVEGF receptor fusion protein in Class 514, subclass 2.

3. The inventions are distinct, each from the other because of the following reasons:

Inventions I-VI are materially distinct methods which differ at least in objectives, method steps, reagents and/or dosages and/or schedules used, response variables, and criteria for success.

4. Because these inventions are distinct for the reasons given above and have acquired a separate status in the art as shown by their different classification and/or recognized divergent subject matter, restriction for examination purposes as indicated is proper.

5. Group I is further subject to election of a single disclosed species.

Claims 1 and 7 are generic to a plurality of disclosed patentably distinct species comprising different types of antibodies with different structures and

functions wherein the antibodies are (a) chimeric (claim 8), (b) humanized (claim 9), (c) monoclonal (claim 10).

6. Group II is further subject to election of a single disclosed species.

Claims 1 and 7 are generic to a plurality of disclosed patentably distinct species comprising different types of antibodies with different structures and functions wherein the antibodies are (a) chimeric (claim 8), (b) humanized (claim 9), (c) monoclonal (claim 10).

7. Group III is further subject to election of a single disclosed species.

Claims 1 and 7 are generic to a plurality of disclosed patentably distinct species comprising different types of antibodies with different structures and functions wherein the antibodies are (a) chimeric (claim 8), (b) humanized (claim 9), (c) monoclonal (claim 10).

8. Group V is further subject to election of a single disclosed species.

Claims 14 and 15 are generic to a plurality of disclosed patentably distinct species comprising different types of antibodies with different structures and functions wherein the antibodies are (a) chimeric (claim 16), (b) humanized (claim 17), (c) monoclonal (claim 18).

9. Should applicant traverse on the ground that the species are not patentably distinct, applicant should submit evidence or identify such evidence now of record showing the species to be obvious variants or clearly admit on the record that this is the case. In either instance, if the examiner finds one of the inventions unpatentable over the prior art, the evidence or admission may be used in a rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 103 of the other invention.

10. Applicant is reminded that upon the cancellation of claims to a non-elected invention, the inventorship must be amended in compliance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.48(b) if one or more of the currently named inventors is no longer an inventor of at least one claim remaining in the application. Any amendment of inventorship must be accompanied by a diligently-filed petition under 37 C.F.R. § 1.48(b) and by the fee required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(h).

11. This application currently names joint inventors. In considering patentability of the claims under 35 U.S.C. § 103, the examiner presumes that the subject matter of the various claims was commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein were made absent any evidence to the contrary. Applicant is advised of the obligation under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 to point out the inventor and invention dates of each claim that was not commonly owned at the time a later invention was made in order for the examiner to consider the applicability of potential 35 U.S.C. § 102(f) or (g) prior art under 35 U.S.C. § 103.

12. Applicant is advised that the response to this requirement to be complete must include an election of the invention to be examined even though the requirement be traversed.

13. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Susan Ungar, PhD whose telephone number is (703) 305-2181. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday from 7:30am to 4pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Paula Hutzell, can be reached at (703) 308-4310. The fax phone number for this Art Unit is (703) 308-4242.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0196.

Susan Ungar
Primary Patent Examiner
December 3, 1999